

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/768,720

Applicant(s)

WINKLER ET AL.

Examiner

G. Nagesh Rao

Art Unit

1722

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to 6/28/05.

2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-10.

3. The drawings filed on 1/30/2004 are accepted by the Examiner.

4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some* c) None of the:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

(a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.

(b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of
Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

Reasons for Allowance

1) The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: As claim 1 of applicant's invention recites "An extruder drive assembly comprising, a housing; at least two extrusion worms each having a drive shaft extending into the housing; and at least one drive motor including at least one cylindrical stator fixed in the housing and a cylindrical rotor cooperating with the stator so as to be rotatably driven by the stator, the rotor surrounding the drive shafts, each of the drive shafts being independently connected to the rotor for driving thereby.".

The prior art fails to teach a cylindrical rotor with one cylindrical stator as part of the drive motor for operating two or more extrusion worm screws.

For example Cotteverte (US Patent No. 6,523,997) teaches an apparatus as shown in Figure 1 with a housing (11) enclosing two extrusion worms (1, 2). The extrusion worms are connected to a pair of driving shafts (3,4) synced with a pair of receiving shafts (25,26) operated by a driving means not disclosed and therefore lacks the specified teachings of operating the device by a singular cylindrical stator and rotor.

Another example Kobayashi (US Patent No. 5,019,310) teaches a similar apparatus as Cotteverte 997 where there are two extruder shafts (2,3) connected to some sort of driving means (See Figure 1) but it is not specified as how the driving

means occurs and whether the motor is operated via a cylindrical rotor and stator means.

Finally Gale (US Patent No. 4,857,250) teaches a single extruder apparatus (Figure 1) where the front head portion of the extruder screw's rotation is driven via a stator and rotor means (Col 3 Lines 36-47), but fails to teach the specified use of a cylindrical stator and rotor within a drive motor, and thus there would be no motivation to combine the teachings of Gale 250 with that of Cotteverte 997.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to G. Nagesh Rao whose telephone number is (571) 272-2946. The examiner can normally be reached on 9AM-5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Duane Smith can be reached on (571) 272-1166. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

GNR



ROBERT DAVIS
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 1300-1705

8/1/05